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Attorney Docket No.: 11032/3028

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of ROBINSON, Gary B.
Original Patent No. 5,918,014
Original Patent Issue Date June 29, 1999
Serial No. 09/893,748
Filed: June 29, 2001
For: **AUTOMATED COLLABORATIVE FILTERING IN WORLD WIDE
WEB ADVERTISING**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.

3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign

patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

4. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check no. _____ in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

5. Relevance of the non-English language reference(s) is discussed in the present specification.

6. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

7. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language reference(s) appears in the Appendix attached hereto.

8. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/893,748 filed June 29, 2001, which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination of the present application.

9. This application is one of a series of related applications, identified in the attached Appendix, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of those U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during the examination.

10. The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No.08/774,180, filed December 26, 1996, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

11. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

12. Other.

Date: November 7, 2001

Respectfully submitted



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		FILING DATE - November 7, 2001	Examiner - TO BE ASSIGNED

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINE R INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	PATENT DATE	NAME	CLASS/SUBCLAS S
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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATIO N	
					YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.
	Miller, B., "GroupLens: An Open Architecture for Collaborative Filtering," ftp://ftp.cs.umn.edu/users/bmiller/prop.ps, Univ. of Minn., pp 1-18, Oct. 1995.
	Upendra Shardanand, "Social Information Filtering for Music Recommendation" Sep. 1994, pp. 1-93, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Thesis.

	<u>"WWW.firefly.com"</u> , web site pages, 12 pages, printed out on Jan. 21, 1998 (origination date unknown).
	<u>"WWW.amazon.com"</u> , web site pages, 15 pages, printed out on Jan. 21, 1998 (origination date unknown).

<u>EXAMINER</u>	<u>DATE CONSIDERED</u>
<u>EXAMINER:</u> Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; strike out citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	